

**Remarks/Arguments:**

In the Office Action mailed February 23, 2004, (hereafter "Office Action"), claims 1-14 were pending, claims 4, 9, 10 and 14 were withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-3, 5-8, and 11 were rejected. Claims 12 and 13 were objected to as dependent on rejected claims, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended and claims 7-8, and 12 has been cancelled.

Specifically, claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(2) as being indefinite and claims 1-3, 5-8, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,254,338 issued to Sakai et al. Not in acquiescence to these rejections, but merely to expedite prosecution, claim 7 has been cancelled, and claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all the allowable subject matter from claim 12. Accordingly, claim 12 has been cancelled and claim 13 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments, applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect. If it would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to confer with the undersigned representatives.

Respectfully submitted,



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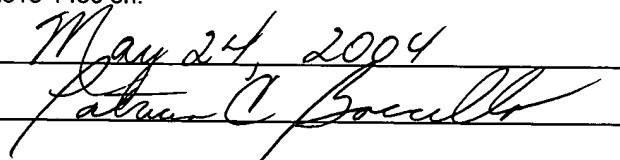
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Dated: May 24, 2004

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